

Statement of Basis
for
Modification of Permit No. ST 6167
Weyerhaeuser Raymond Lumber Mill, Raymond, WA.
October 2002

Ecology issued this permit on January 23, 2002 and it became effective March 1, 2002. Weyerhaeuser filed an appeal on February 15, 2002 (PCHB NO. 02-025), which resulted in the permit modification dated September 3, 2002. In correspondence dated July 25, 2002 Weyerhaeuser submitted another request for modification, specifically to increase the acceptable pH range. This request was delayed because it could not be addressed within the time constraints imposed by the Joint Stipulation Regarding Settlement and Order Dismissing Appeal.

Weyerhaeuser's request is to increase the allowable pH range from 5.5-8.5 in the current permit, to 5.5-10.0. Weyerhaeuser cites the following supporting reasons:

- The characteristics and quantity of mill process wastewater have recently been altered due to a reduction in the amount of kiln free water generated at the drying kilns;
- This has the effect of increasing possible short-term extremes in wastewater pH;
- A wider range, 5.0-11.0, is allowable in lieu of more restrictive local limits; and
- The City of Raymond is willing to allow this increased pH range.

Ecology is willing to accept this request. Due to uncertainty of normal pH variations of Weyerhaeuser's discharge, Ecology proposes to require Weyerhaeuser to install a continuous pH recorder. This new data will augment Weyerhaeuser's recently installed flow meter and composite sampler, and provide the best information to date on the nature, volume, and characteristics of this discharge, and its' effect on the City of Raymond. The modified permit will contain a compliance schedule for the installation of the new pH probe and recorder, and add language to the permit concerning continuous pH monitoring.